

PATENT
Serial No. 10/530,380

Amendment in Reply to Office Action mailed on march 27, 2007

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed March 27, 2007, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 6-9, 11-12, 15-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,416,674 (Murai). Claims 2-3 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Murai in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,796,869 (Stone). Claims 4-5 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Murai in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,172,613 (DeLine). Claims 10 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Murai in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,430,232 (Lynch). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-20 are patentable over Murai Stone, DeLine and Lynch for at least the following reasons.

Murai is directed to a black light display device where one embodiment is shown in FIGs 20a-20b. As shown in FIG 20a,

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fluorescent ink 22 (FIG. 20b) ~~is used to directly~~ paint letters 23 and pictures 24 on the outer circumferential surface of an ultraviolet radiation lamp 21.

The fluorescent ink 22 of the letters 23 and pictures 24 looks white under the normal illumination of fluorescent light or the sun, which produces relatively little ultraviolet light. However, "the ink emits light of a certain color when ultraviolet light of a high intensity, produced by the ultraviolet radiation lamp 21, is radiated upon it." (Column 9, lines 2-4) That is, the very same ultraviolet radiation lamp 21 that activates the ink 22 must be on.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 12, amongst other patentable elements, requires (illustrative emphasis provided):

wherein the after-glowing material is activated by the primary light emitted from the light means, and wherein the after-glowing material is shaped in a predetermined pattern for displaying information and is substantially invisible when the light means generates the primary light.

A patterned after-glowing material, which is activated by light generated from a light source and is substantially invisible

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when the very same light source generates light, is nowhere taught or suggested in Murai. Rather, Murai teaches that the very same UV lamp 21 that activates the ink 22 must be on, thus teaching away from a pattern which is substantially invisible when the very same light source (that activates the pattern) generates light, as required by independent claims 1 and 12. In Murai, the ink 23 becomes visible when the UV lamp 21 (that activates the ink 22) is on. Stone, DeLine and Lynch are cited in rejecting dependent claims to allegedly show other features and do not remedy the deficiencies in Murai.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 12 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-11 and 13-20 should also be allowed based at least on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 12.

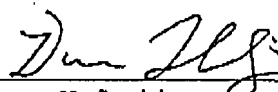
In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to

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submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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